
* INDIANA SINCLAIR-TIMEX NEWSLETTER *

July-August '89

Editor-Frank Davis
Assist - M. Felerski
Publisher-R. McCrum

This issue....

Next meetings

I.S.T.U.G. MEETING

The meeting for August 26, will be held at the Eagledale Public Library, meeting room, 3225 Lowery Road, Indianapolis, IN. This meeting will start at 1:30 P.M. This is one block East of Georgetown Road on 34th. For directions call Frank Davis at 317-473-8031 or Paul Holmgren at 317-291-6002.

The meeting for September 30 will be held at the Eagledale Public Library, meeting room, 3225 Lowery Road, Indianapolis, IN. This meeting will start at 1:30 P.M.

I need input from all readers of this newsletter to help with the SNUG public domain library. Send me your public domain programs so that they can be compiled into the library and made available to all of us. If you have an inquiry, then please include a SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. I hate to have to say this, but I get between 300 to 400 inquiries a year from people who do not send a SASE. I usually do not answer them, as I do not want to be paying out that many envelopes and stamps to people who should have been courteous enough to have included them with their letter. The same goes for people who call and leave a message on my answering machine and expect me to call them back long distance. Just call me back till you get me and I will be glad to talk; it is just that I cannot afford to foot everyones bill. Please do not be offended, leave a message.

I have had some good response from the last issue asking for contributions to the Public Domain Library, but I need much more in order to make this the best it can be. I am particularly in need of programs for the QL, TS1000 and the Z88. We have had contributions by exchange from Sincus (New York State) and from Cleveland and from CATS in the D.C. area. Now I need some from other groups and individuals. So what happens to all of these public domain programs once I get them? I sort through them and check to be sure they are public domain, remove duplications, put them in apha-numeric order on disk in Oliger format and on high quality Sony, Scotch or Memorex 60 minute tapes. I verify that I have a good save on these programs. For those just wanting to get full info on these programs, with a list of what we have to offer (several pages just to list, along with header information on them) send two dollars and no SASE. Should you decide to purchase a set of these tapes, then that two dollars is knocked off of the purchase price. The price is for ISTUG or SNUG members \$4 per 60 minute tape, and for non-members \$5 per tape. Each tape holds at least 700K of public domain programs. For those after Oliger disk format the price is \$3 per disk for 5 1/4 DSDD, \$4 per disk for 3 1/2 SSDD, and \$5 for HDDS 1.2 meg disks for ISTUG and SNUG members. For non-members add one dollar to the above disk prices. Send all inquiries to ISTUG, c/o Frank Davis, 513 E. Main, Peru, IN 46970, delivery within 30 days. The money is used to buy tapes and postage and mailers and disks.

SO WHERE IS SNUG ?

First, what is SNUG? It stands for Sinclair Northamerica Users Group. It was an idea that came out of the Sinclair Computer show held in Florida a couple of years back. The idea originated at this show, though a national or continental users group had been around as a background thought by many for several years. Some of the people attending the show, several of whom were dealers, wanted to have members communicate by means of a national BBS, rather than a newsletter; while others felt that they wanted to use existing publications such as Time Designs Magazine or SyncWare News as a means of communications. Both magazines offered this young group space in their mags. In fact, at a later date Computer Updates went so far as to offer to turn his growing Sinclair mag over to SNUG. SNUG felt it was not yet sufficiently on its own feet to attempt to take over a growing commercial mag, and if all the info SNUG had to offer its members could just as easily be picked up by nonmember readers of Time Designs or SyncWare News, then there would be less incentive to join. There were even members in our loose Sinclair community who from the start either openly or subtly stated they wanted no national user group, or at least one that they did not have a major say in.

Added to all of the above, SNUG was a forming group that was trying, through volunteer effort to unite users across a continent. Volunteers do not always show up when needed or have something more pressing at a time when you need them. This hampered progress. Several of those who originally started up the group dropped by the wayside. This ended up leaving the President Pro-Tem, Mel Nathanson, by himself. He sent out a list of candidates for offices in the group. I have heard several individuals or groups complain that they did not get a ballot. When I checked only two of these complaints came from groups or individuals who had taken the time (and paid dues) to join. We all should know that only members get ballots to vote with. Some groups or individuals got a call from Mel to tabulate their vote. He then sent out some notices to groups who were members or expressed written interest as to the results of the election. He also told them that the group now had a legal Charter granted by the State of Florida on December 7, 1988. UP TO THAT TIME ALL CHECKS AND FUNDS HAD BEEN HELD, AND WERE THRN DEPOSITED INTO A CHECKING ACCOUNT ON DECEMBER 31, 1988. No funds had been used up to that date except out of the pockets of those attempting to start up this group.

When I was at the Capitalfest at D.C. in May I held a talk on the subject of SNUG Saturday night in the hospitality room. Other than the talk by Nigel, it had the best attendance. It was well attended by detractors and well wishers alike. There is interest in a Continental users group!

Mel has temporarily stepped aside, due to more pressing personal matters that are absorbing his time and attention. So at this time Paul Holmgren of 5231 Wilton Wood Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46254, the SNUG Vice-President has assumed the Presidency and Basil Wentworth of 1413 Elliston Dr., Bloomington, IN 47401 has moved up from 2nd to First Vice-President. Basil has also, with the help of Paul and myself (Frank Davis) gone to work on getting out the first issue of the SNUG newsletter. All memberships paid so far will receive an automatic SIX MONTH EXTENSION. For full information on SNUGs public domain library, send \$2 (counts toward future purchase of library) to me at 513 East Main, Peru, IN 46970 and allow several weeks to process and reply. Thank you.

ELECTION NEWS

S . N . U . G .
Sinclair Northamerica Users Group

ELECTION NEWS

Sixty-seven eligible voting members recieved ballots to vote on officers for the charter year of S. N. U. G.. There were five offices with five candidates for each office. All election totals were supervised by an unbiased party, Mrs. Julia Bailey, a deputy for the Pasco County Supervisor of Elections, Florida.

Forty three Ballots were received by the election deadline, and 9 absentee ballots were confirmed by Mrs. Bailey prior to the election deadline, four nominees decided to withdraw.

Here are the election results:

PRESIDENT - Mel Nathanson- 40 (76%)

James Curry (WITHDREW)- 6(12%); Joan Kealy- 4(8%);
Gary lessenberry- 1(2%); D.R. Oviatt (WITHDREW) - 1(2%)

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT - Paul Holmgren- 28 (54%)
Donald Lambert- 10(19%); David Hartman-7(13%);
Alex Burr- 4(8%); Ted Heckman- 3(6%)

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT - Basil Wentworth- 20 (38%)
Frank Davis- 13(25%); Ruth Fegly- 12(23%);
Laurie Futrell- 7(13%); Frank Orosz- 0(0%)

SECRETARY - Audrey Curnutt- 20 (39%)
Gary Lessenberry- 16(31%); Andrew Hradesky- 9(17%);
Mike Bowers- 7(13%); William Wood- 0(0%)

TREASURER - John Cushran- 20 (38%)
Tim Stoddard (WITHDREW)- 21(40%); Roger Phelps- (WITHDREW)- 5(10%);
Chris Crawford- 3(6%); Ken Frankel- 3(6%)

Frank Davis is serving as the Public Domain software Librarian.
There is a staff assisting him. (ps. have anything to contribute?)

Several members have asked how the elections were determined. Many said they had no idea who some of the nominaties were. Another questioned the validity of reasoning - Why would the established leaders want to turn over the leadership to unknown quantities.

Although many of the nominees were not familiar to the voters, this would be an excellant opportunity to impart new ideas and new blood into the group. Due to the short period of time and the need to get up and running, we had to utilize the election process that we did. As to why the election was held in the first place. There have been too many allegations of a grab for power. Elections were the only fair way to prevent any claims. The election was held and regulated as fairly as possible. In the future, proceedures will be more structured, formal, and organized. Towards that end, we will have a By-laws committee, and an Election committee. We are announcing that the next election will take place on Jauary 14, 1990.

To S.N.U.G.'s user group members: would you put to a vote of your membership whether or not your group will make a donation to S.N.U.G.'s growing public domain library. At this time we will weed out all the duplicated programs and eliminate those programs that we identify as non-public domain material.

As soon as a standard method of listing the programs is worked out we will inform all of the Library's contents. Several lists are circulating of the 2068 library. The QL lib is growing SLOWLY.

The membership list is over 83 members and we are working on that data base also. Again, as soon as the method is fully worked out that list will also make it your way.

As a service to the membership, a data base has been made available that is an index of all the issues of SYNC, SyncWare News, T.S. Horizons, SUM, Time Designs, Timex Sinclair User (USA) and 95% of TimeLinez. This data base lists all the hardware and program listings by type (also cross referenced if necessary) and issue of which publication the article is to be found. This can assist in locating any particular subject if it has been printed in those publications. Reprints of some of the articles can be made available. For the currently publishing magazines you can contact the publisher for specific back issue details.

05 64 Software

For Owners of
Zebra Systems

0564 Cartridge

From: Bottle Cap Software
1284 Brushwood Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45224

ALL Titles are \$5 + \$1 S&H
and come on quality cassette
with FULL instructions!!

For a catalog of our other
programs for TS2068/TS1000
Spectrum and TS2068+0564
Send a large SASE.

Checkbook Keeper/Balancer

This program not only keeps track of your checks, deposits, and ATM withdrawals but actually has a special routine that helps you **Balance** your account at the end of the month! And all in 64 columns making it easy to read.

Maxi-Bill Credit Card Payer

Maxi-Bill helps sort out all of your credit card bills at the end of the month and informs you as to **how much to pay** on each bill in order to **save the most on interest!** Amounts, payments, and expected interest are all displayed on one screen!

Cassette Index Card Maker

Makes professional cassette index cards for cassette storage boxes on almost any paper stock.

All above programs require 0564!

DOMINO CUBES 212 971 5638
355 WEST 39th ST.
NEW YORK CITY 10018-1401
PRESIDENT.....MIKE FINK

WOULDN'T IT BE WONDERFUL TO DISCOVER OR FIND A MACHINE SO POWERFUL THAT ONE COULD WAVE A MAGIC WAND AT IT AND IT COULD LOOK FOR AND FIND ANY OR ALL OF THE LETTERS, FILES, RECORDS, PROGRAMS OR DOCUMENTS YOU HAVE STORED IN IT, AND **AUTOMATICALLY!!**, WHILE YOU ARE ASLEEP OR AWAY, PRINT AS MANY COPIES OF AS MANY FILES AS YOU HAVE INK!!!!!!!

IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE AMAZING IF THIS PRINTER AND COMPUTER COULD FIT IN A SMALL SHOULDER BAG AND WEIGH LESS THAN 8 POUNDS!!

WHAT A MIRACLE!!!

INCREDIBLY, SUCH A COMBINATION EXISTS.....AND CAN BE HAD FOR LESS THAN A THOUSAND DOLLARS!

THE COMPUTER IS THE Z-88 ♣ ♠ ♥ ♦
THE PRINTER IS THE DICONEX 150

IT WILL PRINT 150 PAGES OR 50 CONTINUOUS MINUTES WITHOUT EXTERNAL ELECTRICITY. WITH THE AC ADAPTER PLUGGED IN, YOU COULD ASK IT TO PRINT 2 MILLION COPIES, OR UNTIL SOMETHING WEARS OUT----PROBABLY THE INK WILL RUN OUT AT ABOUT 500 COPIES. THE COMPUTER IS GOOD FOR 20 HOURS ON 4 AA BATTERIES, AND FOREVER ON THE AC ADAPTER!

THE DICONEX PRINTS EPSON, IBM, GRAPHICS, SCRIPT, DOUBLE WIDTH, CONDENSED, SUBSCRIPT, SUPERScript, ITALICS-(EXCEPT IBM), OR ANY COMBINATION OF THESE.

IF ELECTRICITY IS AVAILABLE, YOU CAN USE THE C-130 SQUARE DOT PRINTER, WHICH IS LITTLE FASTER AND COSTS A LITTLE LESS THAN THE DICONEX, ALTHOUGH IT IS NOISIER. THE RIBBON IS A LITTLE CHEAPER THAN THE INK AND IT TOO, IS GOOD FOR ABOUT 500 PAGES.

THERE ARE SEVERAL PLACES TO BUY THE COMPUTER
AND OR THE PRINTERS.

BUT—THERE IS ONLY ONE PLACE TO BUY THE KNOWLEDGE OF HOW
TO MAKE THE MACHINE DO THESE FANTASTIC THINGS ! !

. . DOMINO CUBES. .

THIS PARTICULAR PAGE HAS BEEN PRINTED WITH THE C-130.



Confused About Fonts?

By Mike Felerski

So you bought a font package or font library, and you want to use these fonts within your own programs? Well, it is as easy as 2 5 6!

The TS2068 and Sinclair Spectrum both use a character 'shape' table to derive each of the characters displayed on the screen. Within the System Variables section of RAM is a variable named CHARS. CHARS holds the location in memory of the start of the 'shape' table, less 256. Normally, when the system is initialized, CHARS holds a value of 6000h (which is in ROM). To obtain the block of data which is used to create a character, all we need to do is multiply the ASCII code of the character by 8, and add it to CHARS. This gives us the starting address of the 8 values that make up our character.

But how does this help me to load and use fonts in my own programs?

Well, first we need to CLEAR some area in memory to LOAD and store the font we wish to use. As an example, let us LOAD our font at 63000. This means that we need to CLEAR 62999. Now LOAD "CODE 63000. The next step is to tell the TS2068's operating system where the start of our font 'shape' table is. So, we must POKE locations 23606 and 23607 with the value 62744. This is done with:

```
POKE 23606,24
and
POKE 23607,245
```

We now have characters displayed in the font we loaded. Even our listings are displayed using this font! If we wish to change back to the standard Sinclair font, we need to:

```
POKE 23606,00
and
POKE 23607,60
```

And now we have the regular font restored!

Numerous fonts are now available in public domain for the TS2068 and Spectrum. There is also an excellent font package available from:

Byte Power Magazine
1748 Meadowview Ave
Pickering, ONT L1V 3G8
Canada

AMMENDMENTS TO TRUMP CARD USER MANUAL.

Always switch off the QL before installing or removing the TRUMP CARD.

BEGINNERS GUIDE page 2.

Paragraph 4, one before last sentence should read:
To print, instead of using the default "printer" option, type in _N1_SER1.

TO USE QUILL FROM DISC INSTEAD OF MICRODRIVE.

If you only have a single disc drive, then use the CONFIG.BAS routine on your QUILL cartridge so that QUILL will expect SYSTEM, DATA and HELP information from MDV1.

1. Reset the QL.
2. Press F1 or F2.
3. Type TK2_EXT then press ENTER.
4. Put a blank disc into FLP1.
5. Type FORMAT FLP1_QUILL then press ENTER.
6. When the disc has formatted put your QUILL cartridge into MDV1.
7. Type WCOPY MDV1_TO FLP1 then press ENTER.
8. A message saying MDV1_nnn TO FLP1_nnn..Y/N/A/Q? will appear. (Where nnn can be any name eg. BOOT or CLONE.)
9. Press the letter A to copy all the files.
10. When the copying has finished type LOAD BOOT then press ENTER.
11. Once the file has loaded type RENUM then press ENTER.
12. Type 90 FLP_USE MDV then press ENTER.
13. Type SAVE BOOT then press ENTER.
14. A message saying FLP1_BOOT EXISTS, OK TO OVERWRITE..Y OR N? will appear.
15. Press the letter Y to overwrite the file.
16. When the light on the disc drive goes out, the disc is ready to use.
17. After RESET, once the disc has loaded in, any reference MDV will access the disc instead of microdrive.
18. Use the same procedure to copy your other PSION programs to disc.
19. You can also use the WCOPY command to copy data from microdrive cartridge to disc.
20. Refer to the TRUMP CARD USER MANUAL for further information on the use of disc drives.

NETWORK DRIVER page 32, section 22.3

Section 22.3 should include:

FLP_USE FLP is invoked after reset so if you want to use FLP as the device name in the NFS_USE command (eg. NFS_USE FLP,N1 MDV1,N2 MDV2) remember to include FLP_USE XXX. This will stop the TRUMP CARD from trying to access its own disc port instead of the network.

- Update record
- V2.01 First full version.
- V2.02 First release version.
- V2.03 Patched to prevent M0 initialisation problems.
- V2.04 (Jaggs) only network eof problems fixed.
- V2.05 Lost channel on OPEN_NEW (file already exists) fixed.
- V2.06 EX changed for compiled programs: EX jobs owned by 0, EX jobs owned by current job and now wait.
- V2.07 (Sandy only) 'bad line' character wrap problem in ED fixed.
- V2.08 Empty line in ED problem (introduced in V2.07) fixed.
- V2.09 PUTting randomly positioned bytes over the network should unset string parameter collapse in PRINT_USING fixed.
- V2.10 RENAME with only one name does not now leave file open.
- V2.11 Initialisation error causing loss of replacement commands (e.g. OPEN using JH/AH ROMs and CST QDISC V1.17 and V1.18 fixed).
- V2.12 Bad error message return from opening a file name that is too long changed to return "bad name".
- "Bad parameter" from special job opening a file specified as a string in an EX command fixed.
- "Not complete" from SPL fixed.
- Last line recall changed to reduce problems due to asynchronous modification of keyboard queue.



A SINCLAIR FEST IN 1990!

That is right, there will be a Fest in 1990, and once again back in the Midwest. Seems to me that right in the heartland of America is where they get the best attendance. So any and all dealers reading this newsletter had better do the sensible thing and go where the users will be in 1990. And from what info I've had from SMUG, it will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. To quote the Sinclair Milwaukee Users Group, "The date will be June 1, 2 and 3 of 1990. That is Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the first weekend in June. The prices will be reasonable as the motel is going to charge a flat rate of \$45 per room no matter how many are in a room. There will be an extra charge if a roll away bed is needed. The room will contain two double beds, if requested. It has a nice indoor pool and the food is excellent."

To further quote "We will work out the prices at our next meeting and let everyone know what they are. Friday night will be a buffet with three types of food. Come and bring your appetite. Get your reservations in early as the seating will be limited. We are hoping to have displays using the packet radio and telescope tracking. Nothing is firm yet, but we are talking. The seminars are wide open so if any of you coming would like to impart your gleaned wisdom on to others please let me know. I hope to have some local vendors selling disks, paper and other peripherals for our computers. ... Along with the expo we hope to have the national (SNUG) meeting Saturday night." Sounds like the sort of weekend that ISTUG will be attending, and this time I'll bet that SNUG will be there with a booth. All users should encourage their local dealers to attend, such as RMG, Sharps, American Micro Connection, and every other dealer you can possibly think of. For more info on all of this contact SMUG, by phone to Bill Heberlein at 414-527-2191, or by letter to Smug, P.O. Box 101, Butler, WI 53007. I have met many of this groups membership over the years at the fests at Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Cleveland and at Washington D.C. and can vouch that they are hard workers who will put on a good show. I hope to see at least a thousand of you there.

EDITORS NOTE

Due to the late nature of this issue (I misplaced my one and only hardcopy of all but this page for about 2 1/2 weeks) I thought it best to let you know that the October meeting will be on the 28th of October. I will be unable to make this meeting as that is the weekend of my Anniversary and will be away with my Bride, as I usually am that weekend.

Also due to the last few issues being combined issues and I prefer to give both quantity and quality, all memberships have been given a two month extension as to when you have to renew. For those past due already, this does not apply. Do your club a favor and get in a new member or bring back in an old one.

I have been the Editor of this newsletter for going on four years this coming Spring and am looking for a replacement to take over by next June. Would someone like to step forward and volunteer? I am willing to work with them and teach them what I know about this arcane art of putting thoughts and news out to others. During that same period of time I will continue to act as the main librarian for both ISTUG and for SNUG. But come the end of next June I will be going on to other uses of my computers. That which I plan on doing in life is the reason for this decision, not any upset with our membership or users.

C7

I.S.T.U.G.
513 EAST MAIN STREET
PERU, IN 46970



Don Lambert
3310 Clover Dr. S.W.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
52404

ISTUG is a not for profit, educational organization dedicated to helping users of Timex, Sinclair and Cambridge computers. We offer a hardcopy and software library for our membership along with technical assistance and monthly meetings (usually the last Saturday of the month at 1:30 P.M.). Full membership is available at \$12 per year and newsletter only subscriptions at \$9 per year. Send all inquiries, along with SASE, to ISTUG, 513 E. Main St., Peru, IN, 46970.